DEWAN 'S REPLY: Mr. Narayanan Namputiripad, you are not strictly correct in saying that I said nothing about the Alwaye bridge last year. This is what I said." The estimate works out to Rs. 3,29,000 and I am afraid it will not go beyond an estimate for the next two years at least".

When there are more urgent works serving arterial communications, the question of this bridge cannot as I said last year go beyond an estimate for some time to come.

MEMBER : Restoration of the Alangad taluk.

DEWAN : In regard to the question of restoration of the Alangad taluk, I can only repeat what I said last year. Nevertheless, though in name Alangad is not used at present for the description of a revenue unit, the land Alangad still remains and will remain for all time. The Government hope to evolve better arrangements for the administration of criminal justice in what used to be the Alangad taluk.

134. Needs of the Peermade taluk.

MR. C. A. ANUMANTAKUDI MIRA ROWTHER (*Member, Peermade taluk*) said that the Peermade taluk was not behind other taluks in respect of income, population etc. But proper attention was not being paid by the Government to the maintenance of public health in the taluk. Kumili and Vandiperiyar were two of the important stations in the place. Kumili was on the frontier between Travancore and the British territory and it was also the headquarters of the Government offices in the taluk. Vandiperiyar was an important trading centre. But these two stations were seats of malaria and it was highly necessary that two conservancy stations should be established, one at Vandiperiyar and the other at Kumili. Moreover, Peermade was a health-resort of many people and of late of the Ruling Family. Arrangements should therefore be made for the preservation of sanitation in the taluk.

Secondly, in the Peermade taluk, the Tahsildar was now exercising magisterial powers also. A separate Magistrate, preferably a Munsiff-Magistrate, was necessary for the taluk.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Mira Rowther, there is a major conservancy station at Mundakayam, and a minor conservancy station at Arudai and conservancy staffs have been appointed at Vandiperiyar, Kumili and Pambanar in connection with plague operations. The Sanitary Commissioner has under consideration the question of at what all places in the Peermade area it is necessary to establish conservancy stations.

I shall have your suggestion of a Munsiff being appointed at Peermade with magisterial jurisdiction considered. By the way, I am doubtful whether the amount of civil work will justify it. Still it will be examined.

135 Encouragement of the Malayalam language and literature.

MR. P. C. NARAYANAN BHATTATIRI (*Member, Jenmies, Quilon Division*) said that respect for one's mother-tonge was one of the noblest sentiments inborn in man. No effort would be superfluous which an individual or a nation made to develop his or its mother tongue. In fact every civilised nation was to-day trying to develop its own language. But so far as the Malayalam language was concerned, the people whose mother tongue that language was, were neglecting it. They were anglicising themselves and throwing away Malayalam. In Travancore the Government were also partially responsible for this state of affairs. With a view to developing the Malayalam language, the member would suggest the following measures being taken by Government. Correspondence in every public office should, as far as possible, be in Malayalam. Arrangements should be made in all courts for giving Malayalam translations of judgments to parties. All correspondence in municipalities should be in Malayalam. Government publications of general interest such as the Census Report, the State Manual etc. should be published in Malayalam. Malayalam should be declared to be the court language in Travancore. Persons holding qualifications in Malayalam should be appointed in the Government service. All

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forms used in Government offices, such as money-order forms, Anchal receipts, chalans etc., should be printed in Malayalam. The directions on sign-boards kept in public roads should be in Malayalam. Proceedings of Government, notifications etc., published in the Gazette should be in Malayalam. Malayalam should be adopted for the proceedings of the Legislative Council, as also for the replies of the President in the Srimulam Popular Assembly. In order to pave the way for the growth of Malayalam literature, Government should appoint a committee of scholars to publish a Malayalam dictionary. More publicity should be given to publications of Malayalam manuscripts. A committee of experts should be appointed for the publication in Malayalam of standard religious and scientific books in English and Sanskrit. Malayalam type-writers should be used in all Government offices. The Malayalam short-hand primers published by Government should be taught in all schools. Government should encourage the study of Malayalam short-hand by providing qualified candidates with appointments in the Government service.

DEWAN'S REPLY:—Mr. Narayanan Bhattatiri, this question came up on a previous occasion and I think, if I remember rightly, I then said the representative who himself was strongly advocating going back to Malayalam in his speech used about 50 per cent English words which have now passed into Malayalam. For example, if we print the Budget Estimates in Malayalam, still its designation will be the 'Budget Estimate.' I could not very well ask professors to teach Physics, Chemistry, Zoology in Malayalam nor can the Electrical Engineer work out his formula and his plans for the electrification of the town in Malayalam terms. English has its uses. If you want an institution as an example that Malayalam is very much alive, it is this Assembly itself.

If you go some day to an Anchal office, you will find that all the money order and S. B. forms are printed both in Malayalam and English. I shall give instructions to the Chief Engineer to have names on sign boards both in Malayalam and English.

As regards further encouragement, there are many fine scholars and there will always be Malayalam scholars in Travancore, and as people begin to realise the beauties of the language more and more, there will be still more Malayalam scholars, poets, writers and speakers of the Malayalam language. I am under correspondence on the question of a Malayalam type-writer.

136. Economic development of the State.

MR C. G. VARGHESE (*Member, Municipal Council, Tiruvalla.*) said that of all the problems confronting the State at the present time, the most pressing was the problem of unemployment. The cause of this was over-population. Travancoreans were an agricultural people and there was not enough land for them to cultivate. The density of population in the State was 525 per square mile. But Government were not doing anything to relieve this over-crowding. Not only that, the only available lands to which the population could expand were being given away to foreigners. No Travancorean had any grudge against the foreigner as such, but what the people of Travancore wanted was only that their lands should be reserved for their own use.

There were people who thought that exclusion of foreigners from Travancore lands would lead to retaliation elsewhere. But there was no substance in that argument. The only people who would be affected by the exclusion were Europeans. They were not all of them anxious to secure lands in Travancore. They had Canada, they had Australia. Travancore had no special attraction to them. Besides, Travancore had already given away about 2 lakhs of acres of land for tea cultivation alone to Europeans. That itself was very good liberality.

Another objection that was raised was that most of the lands in the highlands which were registered in the names of European companies were unsuitable for the cultivation of paddy or other crops, and that therefore Travancoreans did not want them. There was a two-fold mistake in this contention. In the first place the lands were quite fit for cultivating paddy, ragi, tapioca or any other produce. Secondly, so far from being unwanted by Travancoreans, these lands were eagerly sought for by them.

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